



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS EAST  
PSC BOX 20005  
CAMP LEJEUNE NC 28542-0005

MCIEASTO 5100.4  
DPS/SAFE  
1 Feb 11

MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS EAST ORDER 5100.4

From: Commanding General  
To: Distribution List

Subj: PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES (PFDS)

Encl: (1) Types of Approved Personal Flotation Devices

1. Situation. Boating for recreational pleasure or as an occupational requirement is common aboard Marine Corps Installations East (MCIEAST) Installations. The hazards associated with falling overboard, capsizing, flooding, sinking, collision, fire or explosion are always present in the operation of any watercraft. According to 2007 U.S. Coast Guard statistics, approximately 70 percent of all fatal boating accidents are caused by drowning. Of those that drowned, approximately 90 percent were not wearing a personal flotation device (PFD). Since a PFD is the most important piece of safety equipment for any boater, boaters must wear PFDs to reduce the risk of fatal boating mishaps.

2. Mission. To publish an Order mandating the use of PFDs for all personnel assigned to MCIEAST.

3. Execution

a. Commander's Intent and Concept of Operations

(1) Commander's Intent. This Order directs all patrons who rent, operate, or ride as passengers aboard any watercraft owned by a MCIEAST Installation to wear PFDs.

(2) Concept of Operations. Commanders will ensure all patrons who rent, operate, or ride as passengers aboard any watercraft owned by a MCIEAST Installation will wear appropriate and serviceable U.S. Coast Guard-approved PFDs. Enclosure (1) provides a list and description of approved PFDs. Law enforcement personnel will wear an appropriate automatic/manual

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inflatable Type V PFD while operating any watercraft in their official capacity.

b. Coordinating Instructions

(1) All users of watercraft aboard MCIEAST Installations will follow all manufacturers' safety recommendations for the watercraft.

(2) MCIEAST Installation Commanders will develop, publish, and maintain detailed standard operating procedures (SOPs) covering the following:

(a) Requirements to wear an approved PFD for all types of watercraft and equipment used by employees and patrons.

(b) Requirements for supervisor, employee, and patron training, including records maintenance.

(c) Requirements to provide all affected employees and patrons with the proper PFD, communication equipment, and training.

(d) Requirements for all employees (new and old) to read, understand, and agree to abide by the SOP prior to activity participation.

(e) Requirements for supervisors of all employees (new and old) to ensure they have read and understand the SOP prior to activity participation, and agree to operate all watercraft in a safe manner.

4. Administration and Logistics

a. A violation of these provisions, and the laws and regulations enforced by these provisions, is punishable in accordance with the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) for military personnel, and is the basis for appropriate disciplinary action and criminal prosecution with respect to civilian employees, in accordance with 5 U.S.C. Chapter 75 and Department of Navy Civilian Human Resources Manual Subchapter 752.

b. Recommendations concerning the contents of this Order may be forwarded to the MCIEAST Department of Public Safety.

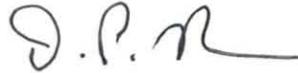
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5. Command and Signal

a. Command. This Order is applicable to all personnel assigned permanently or temporarily to MCIEAST.

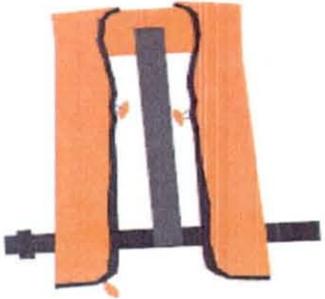
b. Signal. This Order is effective the date signed.



D. P. THOMAS  
Chief of Staff

DISTRIBUTION: A

TYPES OF APPROVED PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES

	<p>A Type I PFD, or Offshore Life Jacket, provides the most buoyancy. It is effective for all waters, especially open, rough, or remote waters where rescue may be delayed. It is designed to turn most unconscious wearers in the water to a face-up position. The Type I comes in two sizes: Adult size, providing at least 22 pounds of buoyancy, and child size, 11 pounds, minimum.</p>
	<p>A Type II PFD, or Near-Shore Buoyant Vest, is intended for calm, inland water or where there is a good chance of quick rescue. This type will turn some unconscious wearers to a face-up position. The turning action is not as pronounced nor as effective as a Type I. An adult size provides at least 15.5 pounds buoyancy; a medium child size provides 11 pounds. Infant and small child sizes each provide at least 7 pounds buoyancy.</p>
	<p>A Type III PFD, or Flotation Aid, is good for calm, inland water, or where there is a good chance of quick rescue. This type will not turn unconscious wearers to a face-up position. The wearer may have to tilt their head back to avoid turning face down. Type III has the same minimum buoyancy as a Type II PFD. Float coats, fishing vests, and vests designed for various water sports are examples. Some Type III PFDs are designed to be inflated upon entering the water.</p>
	<p>A Type IV PFD, or Throwable Device, is intended for calm, inland water with heavy boat traffic, where help is always present. It is designed to be thrown to a person in the water, and grasped and held by the user until rescued. It is not designed to be worn. Type IV devices include buoyant cushions, ring buoys, and horseshoe buoys.</p>
	<p>A Type V PFD, or Special Use Device, is intended for specific activities and may be carried instead of another PFD only if used according to the approval condition on the label. Some Type V devices provide hypothermia protection. Varieties include deck suits, work vests, board sailing vests, and Hybrid PFDs. A Type V Hybrid Inflatable PFD is the least bulky. It contains a small amount of inherent buoyancy, an inflatable chamber, and must be worn when underway to be acceptable. This type is designed to automatically inflate upon entering the water.</p>